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The Agricultural Situation

A Brief Summary of



Economic Conditions

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GENERAL SITUATION IMPROVED—COTTON EXPORTS REVIVING

Farmers have had to contend with the usual bad weather lately in winding up the fall work—cotton picking, corn husking, etc. The rains and snow have helped winter wheat over considerable areas but have delayed seeding in some southern sections. Wheat needs moisture in both the Northwest and Southwest. More evidence shows up of the damage done by the October freeze to corn, potatoes, and southern crops.

The movement of the chief products to market is now settling down to a winter schedule. One item of significance is the revival of cotton exports as compared with the very low figures last fall. Also, the October export movement of tobacco compared favorably with other recent years and the same is true of apples. Our export sales of pork products and wheat, however, have shrunk to very small figures. It is significant of our wheat position that October imports of wheat totaled 6,583,000 bushels, whereas exports of wheat and flour amounted to only 1,489,000 bushels.

The livestock industries begin to present a picture of reviving production. Cattle feeders evidently will feed out more animals this winter than last. It is expected that the fall and spring pig crops will show increases. The number of hens is up about 2 percent over November of last year, and poultrymen last month were getting more eggs per hen than in any November in 10 years. Milk production is an exception, however, being around 3 percent under last fall because of fewer cows. One favorable item in the dairy situation is the increasing consumption of butter and cheese. Twice as much butter moved out of storage this October as last.

On the whole, the principal farming regions are better provided for winter than has been the case in 5 or 6 years. It is true that the Wheat Belt has not much to sell, but it is receiving large benefit payments from the Government; and though dairy regions are not getting very good prices, at least they have a fair feed supply in barn and silo. The eastern potato sections have a poor crop but have seen the price double already this season. The South and the Corn Belt have had their income substantially increased; in most sections feed is ample to see the livestock through to spring; and, last but not least, reports indicate that farm cellars rarely have been better stocked with vegetables, meat, and fruit.

PRODUCE SHIPMENTS DECREASING

Fruit and vegetable shipments decreased steadily the second half of October and through most of November. They usually lessen further in December and begin to increase again moderately in January. December shipments may be expected to be rather close to 50,000 carloads, of which about one-fourth would be potatoes and one-fifth citrus fruits. Apples in December are likely to run somewhere near 6,000 carloads. Lettuce, cabbage, celery, onions, and sweetpotatoes are the next heaviest lines. New-crop cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, tomatoes, beans, and greens are important in December when the season is favorable.

Recent reports on southern truck crops show growing conditions generally fair to good. Many increases are reported in intended production of winter vegetables but actual output depends much on the uncertainties of winter weather. Good crops will bring severe competition with northern storage celery, carrots, and cabbage. The Florida strawberry crop is a month earlier this year. It looks well and is likely to be moving actively in December.

The market position of northern vegetables showed further improvement through November. Eastern potato prices had doubled since the early part of the season and midwestern potatoes had gained one-third or more. Onions, sweet potatoes, lettuce, celery, and cabbage were selling considerably higher than near the beginning of the season and mostly higher than they were a year ago. Lettuce and celery brought double last year's prices in producing sections. During the second half of the month there was a tone of hesitation in the potato market after the sharp rise, but most other produce held prices well.

POTATOES MARKET FEATURE

The very sharp upswing in the potato price was the feature of the market during the fall months, setting a fast pace for the moderate gains in other lines. From a level below cost of production, the price of sacked stock in some eastern producing sections was multiplied by 2 or 3 and market centers in the Middle West and East advanced to a jobbing range of \$1.25 to \$2.25 per 100 pounds, then receded about 10 percent. Prices above \$2 per barrel bulk to growers in Maine at the height of the rise contrast with 45 cents early in the season and also in November last year. The sharpest price gains were in the East, where much of the crop shortage is located.

After the first setback from top prices, the quotations in many eastern markets were still about double those of the year before and were about 50 percent higher than last year in the Middle West. No doubt, the rising trend was supported by the stronger action of the general commodity markets this year, some speculative buying, and better demand from consumers. The November estimate of 282,000,000 bushels in 30 late shipping States is a decrease from last year of 30,000,000 bushels, of which 11,500,000 bushels occurred during October. Possibly several million bushels more must be counted out because of later spoilage of slightly frozen stock. On the other hand, shipments of the main crop have lagged nearly 10,000 cars behind those of last season, leaving a somewhat larger percentage of the crop still to be moved. The December 18 crop report and the

January statement of stocks on hand will shed further light on the supply of marketable potatoes.

The early southern crop outlook is still vague. Some of the expected acreage decrease in Florida and Texas may not occur in view of the influence of higher prices in the North, but increases anywhere in the potato belt may be limited by the new Federal Sale Allotment plan, which would tend to keep the commercial potato production near the quantity grown the past season if yields turn out near average. Maine, New York, and Pennsylvania produced 40,000,000 bushels less this year, a decrease of one-third. Five leading Midwestern States decreased 5,000,000 bushels and the far West still showed increases of 17,000,000 bushels above last season's crop. Such a location of the shortage tends to strengthen the position further because of the freight handicap on far western shipments.

Sweetpotatoes have been slow to respond to a rising potato market. There were some scattering gains but jobbing prices per bushel in late November were 10 to 25 cents lower than a year ago in many markets, although the crop is estimated a little smaller this year.

CABBAGE AND ONION PRICES FIRM

Northern late-keeping cabbage at \$10 to \$13 per ton in bulk at country shipping points in New York and Wisconsin has been selling at least one-third higher than last season and prices have been fully holding their own through November. New York growers were getting \$8, sometimes \$10, per ton bulk compared with \$6 in October. Prices were still below the 5-year average, although production of the storage varieties was less than average. The crop of storage cabbage of the Danish type was fully one-fourth smaller this year and 7 percent less than the average production from 1929 to 1933. Shipments have been much lighter this season and there is reported to be plenty of eastern cabbage in storage. The price will depend much on how the southern crop turns out.

Florida, Louisiana, and Texas growers were expecting to more than double their acreage as compared with the areas actually harvested last year after the mid-winter freeze. Texas cabbage is expected in quantity the second half of December and, with Florida cabbage, becomes a prominent market feature in January in favorable seasons.

Onion markets advanced moderately during the upswing in potato prices. Gains have been held quite firmly. Prices in late November on no. 1 yellow stock were close to those of a year ago at 75 cents to \$1.10 per 50 pounds at country shipping points, but were higher in the East than in the Middle West. Western Valencia onions are 10 cents to 15 cents higher in central markets this season but red onions have been lower.

The onion crop is about average, although 9 percent larger than last year. Gains are in the West and Middle West and the sharp decreases are in the East. Much of the small and inferior stock has been sold. Holdings of good storage onions are moderate and demand likely to be fairly good. The market has been working into somewhat stronger position, although possibility of severe competition near the end of the season is seen in the greatly increased plantings in Texas. Two years ago onion prices advanced 20 cents to 50 cents per 50 pounds during the storage season. Last year, with much the same

size crop, prices stayed rather low until the freezing damage to the new southern crop, then the price quickly doubled. This year's production is slightly above average and larger than last season by about 700,000 sacks of 100 pounds; but apparently the rate of shrinkage has been very high. Onion storage reports indicate many good lots of onions held, also considerable quantities that may develop further shrinkage.

APPLE PROSPECTS IMPROVE

The apple market seemed to be working into stronger position the second half of November. Much of the poorer fruit was out of the way. Prices of some varieties were advancing in southern and northwestern producing sections and the average on jobbing sales in New York was considerably higher than for the month before.

A large share of the sales in the eastern and midwestern cities were still at 75 cents to \$1 a bushel, compared with \$1 to \$1.50 a year ago, but some choice fruit of the basket pack has been reaching tops of \$1.25 to \$1.75, and gains of 10 cents to 25 cents were recorded on the northwestern box pack. Northwestern Winesap brought \$1.25 in producing sections and various northwestern varieties with wide range of condition and quality sold at \$1 to \$2.50 in eastern markets. Eastern Winesap and Stayman sold well at rising prices and brought \$1.10 to \$1.30 for storage stock in Virginia. Eastern apple prices have been mostly 25 cents to 50 cents lower than last season, but northwestern apples since the freezing spell in that section have been selling close to the prices of a year ago, and the stronger market for northwestern apples has helped the sale of the same or similar varieties in eastern apple sections.

Exports have been three to four times as active as last season and had already taken over 3,000,000 bushels by the 1st of November. Apples shipped to British markets and selling near a \$2 bushel basis were showing fair net returns in November whenever supplies were not excessive. Export demand was expected to continue good because of the light crops of fruit in Europe, but there is usually a very dull market spell around the year-end holiday season.

Car-lot shipments have lagged about 10 percent behind last year's movement, owing to the much lighter output from Washington and Oregon. Eastern shipments also have shown many reductions, but the Middle West has been more active this season and Virginia shipments up to December were nearly double those of last season. The storage situation is in line with a year of average production of market apples. November holdings were about average, except the increase of one-third in the basket pack.

Prices of cold-storage apples show encouraging firmness in the Shenandoah Valley section, where York, Stayman, and Winesap at \$1.10 to \$1.35 per bushel contrast with sales of common storage apples in New York at 75 cents to \$1. Some setbacks in the apple market are usual after the Thanksgiving trading period, but activity in domestic and foreign markets is to be expected the first half of December.

GEORGE B. FISKE,
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THE TOBACCO SITUATION

It would perhaps be too much to expect that an optimistic view might be taken with respect to all types of tobacco in any one year. Types of tobacco vary so widely in their characteristics, uses, and commercial outlets that each type, or at least each group of types, must be considered as a separate commodity. At least, it can be said, however, that for the majority of types of American-grown tobacco which find their major outlet in domestic manufacture the outlook is good.

INCREASING CONSUMPTION

This results from the increasing consumption of tobacco products under the influence of improving economic conditions and from reductions in the carry-over brought about by the diminished production during the last 2 years. Some of these types also are benefiting by depleted foreign stocks and the need which exists in foreign countries to replenish those stocks. On the other hand, types of tobacco dependent primarily on the export trade, specifically the fire-cured types, are in a somewhat less favorable position today than they were a year ago.

Improvement in economic conditions abroad has given some promise of strengthening our export trade in tobacco, although the troubled conditions growing out of the Italo-Ethiopia conflict present complications that cannot be analyzed with any degree of assurance at this time.

FOREIGN PRODUCTION INCREASING

Optimism as to improvements in the export trade must be tempered, however, by the fact that the competition from foreign-grown tobacco has increased. It is a significant fact that seven foreign countries which before the World War took 45 percent of the leaf tobacco exported from the United States increased their combined production from an average of 250,000,000 pounds during the 3 years 1918-20 to an average of 455,000,000 pounds in 1931-33.

THE SITUATION FOR FLUE-CURED

Flue-cured tobacco holds a dominant position in the cigarette business and in the export trade, and the vicissitudes which have beset both during the last 5 or 6 years have brought about kaleidoscopic changes in the production and marketing end. Cigarette consumption declined substantially during 1931 and 1932 but has since increased to new record levels. Exports reached their maximum in 1928, nearly 435,000,000 pounds, and dropped to 255,000,000 in 1932. Although some improvement has occurred since, it seems highly improbable that we will fully regain our export trade in flue-cured tobacco, at least within any predictable time, due to the increasing production of flue-cured tobacco in other countries, and in particular the conditions affecting the Chinese trade. From 1917 to 1927 prices to flue-cured growers never fell below 20.5 cents per pound, and reached as high as 44.4 cents in 1919. These were the years of increases in both exports and domestic consumption. A definite decrease in exports occurred in 1929, but domestic cigarette consump-

tion continued its increase through that year, and just about held its own through 1930 and the first half of 1931. Thereafter it lost ground rapidly until 1933 when cigarette consumption again began to pick up.

Signs of trouble were not lacking, therefore, when growers put out their record acreage in 1930. This is history now, but the surplus stocks from that record crop contributed the following year to the lowest average price paid during the last quarter of a century. Drastic acreage adjustment in 1932 and subsequent years and the ensuing depletion of stocks, together with improving economic conditions, carried prices to 27.3 cents in 1934. In 1935 there was need for an increase in production if foreign trade was not to be stifled; but the crop of 786,000,000 pounds exceeds early season expectations, will augment stocks by July 1, 1936, and indicates the need for some retrenchment in production. The prices at which the crop is moving, although materially lower than those of 1934-35, appear to be reasonably satisfactory to growers, and certainly are more favorable to the maintenance of our foreign trade in flue-cured tobacco.

Changed conditions in our Chinese trade have materially altered the prospects for exportation of flue-cured tobacco. During the export season of 1930-31, that country took approximately 144,000,000 pounds; in 1934-35 only 29,000,000 pounds. Although some improvement in this trade is expected to result from the lower prices of this year's crop, a return to the large volumes exported during previous years is not likely. Tobacco production in China has received a strong stimulus, and the manufacture of cigarettes containing appreciable percentages of American tobacco has been placed under a severe handicap by discriminatory taxes. The curtailment of this trade is a severe blow to the marketing of low-grade flue-cured tobacco in this country. A partial offset to the decreased exports of flue-cured tobacco lies in the increasing consumption of cigarettes in the United States. Cigarette manufactures are expected to total about 132,000,000,000 during the present calendar year, compared with 126,000,000,000 in 1934 and less than 104,000,000,000 in 1932. Between 50 and 60 percent of the tobacco used in cigarettes is flue-cured.

Balancing up the effects of such conflicting factors as increased production, recent declines in exports, possible increases in exports between now and next August, and increasing domestic consumption, two points are becoming clear:

(1) The 1935 crop, in spite of its great size, is moving at fairly satisfactory prices because of the increasing requirements for cigarettes and for the replenishment of low foreign stocks.

(2) Both foreign and domestic stocks are likely to be much more ample next July than when this marketing season opened. Under these conditions, it is improbable that a crop in 1936 as large as that of 1935 could be sold at prices equal to those now being paid. Granting some retrenchment in the matter of acreage, however, the outlook next year is good.

THE BURLEY SITUATION

Closely associated with flue-cured tobacco in domestic cigarette consumption is Burley. This type is also preeminent in the manufacture of plug and twist chewing tobacco and smoking tobacco, and

probably figures in fine-cut. The consumption of chewing tobacco has been on the decline for many years and plug tobacco continues to decline. Unexpectedly, however, the reports for the last 8 months have indicated some increase in the consumption of twist chewing and fine-cut. The consumption of smoking increased during recent years when cigarette and cigar consumption was decreasing, but this form of manufactured product has now commenced to decline. For many years the increases in cigarette consumption, using around 35 percent Burley, and the changes in consumption of chewing and smoking tobacco have partially offset each other. As a result, the total disappearance of Burley tobacco has not fluctuated very widely, but for a number of years the high prices paid for cigarette grades were such as greatly to stimulate production. This led to the building up of enormous stocks and only in the last 2 years has headway been made through acreage and marketing control in rectifying the situation. The result may be seen in the fact that the average price of Burley tobacco in 1934 was 16.9 cents per pound compared with 10.5 cents in 1933. Stocks on October 1 were roughly 660,000,000 pounds, reported weight, compared with approximately 701,000,000 pounds a year earlier, a reduction of approximately 41,000,000 pounds. Production this year is estimated at 248,000,000 pounds, or somewhat below the total produced last year. In 1934, however, approximately 18,000,000 pounds were withheld from sale under marketing quotas. In view of the reduction in stocks, the price outlook as to this year's crop seems favorable, and since the production is less than disappearance a further reduction in stocks by October 1, 1936, is definitely in prospect.

MARYLAND TOBACCO

Maryland tobacco depends on the cigarette trade for its domestic consumption and on the export market for its noncigarette grades. During the boom times for the 10-cent cigarettes, a considerable volume of low-grade Maryland tobacco which had accumulated over several years was absorbed and has largely disappeared from the picture. This movement was facilitated by the fact that at that time Maryland tobacco was not subject to a processing tax. Now, the apparently decreasing consumption of 10-cent cigarettes, together with the later imposition of a processing tax, may have an effect upon the domestic consumption of this type. The use of Maryland tobacco in the standard brands of cigarettes should expand along with that of flue-cured and Burley.

The greatest difficulty confronting Maryland growers is the dwindling demand of Europeans for their type of tobacco, especially in France, whose imports have fallen from 8,957,000 pounds in 1927 to 162,000 pounds in 1934. Total exports of Maryland tobacco in 1927 were 20,036,000 pounds, from which figure they decreased to 7,101,000 pounds in 1934. During the first 9 months of 1935 the exports were 3,735,000 pounds, compared with 5,672,000 pounds for the same period in 1934. The problem presented by the loss of the French trade is to find an outlet for that portion of the crop not suitable for cigarette manufacture in the United States. Taken altogether, the outlook for this type of tobacco is not encouraging.

DARK AIR-CURED TYPES

The dark air-cured types appear to be better placed this year than for several years past. Production since 1932 has been reduced to a point below the average annual disappearance, which has resulted in a steady diminution of stocks. The strengthening of the situation as to the manufacture of twist chewing tobacco and Black Fat for the export trade has been beneficial. The production for 1935 is estimated to be about 5,000,000 pounds below the probable disappearance for the 1934-35 season, which affords a basis for assuming that this year's prices will be at least as good as those of 1934. Some further reduction in stocks seems probable, which will be helpful to the marketing situation in 1936.

FIRE-CURED TYPES

The fire-cured types are not so well situated. Stocks on October 1 were 23,306,000 pounds larger than a year ago, while production is estimated at 125,179,000 pounds, approximately 1,000,000 pounds lower than last year's crop. Restrictions placed upon international trade with Germany have had a paralyzing effect on exports of tobacco to that country. Total exports for the first 9 months of this year are off approximately 11 percent from the same period in 1934 and 29 percent from the same period in 1933. The only domestic outlet of any significance is in the manufacture of snuff, which appears to be decreasing slowly. Prices in the Virginia fire-cured district, where the marketing season opened on November 12, are somewhat lower than the season average prices of 1934 and a similar decline is anticipated in the Kentucky-Tennessee districts. Barring an exceptional increase in exports over the next few months, by which stocks would be reduced, there will be needed in 1936 a substantial downward readjustment of production plans.

CIGAR TOBACCO

Conditions of unusual difficulty have confronted the growers of cigar tobacco in recent years, due to the rapidity with which cigar consumption and scrap chewing tobacco consumption declined from 1929 to 1932, and to the failure of producers to readjust their acreage accordingly. Stocks, already high, piled up to an alarming degree during this period and only in the last year has acreage control shown appreciable results in rectifying this unbalanced situation.

Stocks of most of the types are now being brought more into line and in the meantime there is evidence that considerable quantities of old tobacco remaining on farms have been worked off. During the last year the consumption of cigars has shown an increase so that in general the outlook is more optimistic than for several years past. Stocks are still heavy in some types, notably those produced in Wisconsin, but with plantings under control, the situation of these types may be expected to show improvement in the near future. The dwindling consumption of scrap chewing tobacco, representing a shrinkage of the outlet for low-grade cigar tobacco, is a cause for concern. Taking the cigar types as a group, however, it may be said that their outlook for 1936 is better than it has been for at least 5 years.

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THE COTTON SITUATION

The increase in the 1935 production of cotton in the United States, as compared with the unusually small crop last season, is offset by a decrease in the carry-over from last year and the total world supply of American cotton is expected to be slightly less than that for last season and one-fifth or 5,800,000 bales smaller than the record supply in 1931-32. The indicated supply of foreign cotton is about the same as that for last year but about one-third, or 4,800,000 bales, above the low point in foreign supplies reached in 1932-33.

Although the price of cotton in the United States has increased sharply from the season's low point reached in mid-September, it is, in late November, still lower than a year ago and considerably lower in relation to most foreign growths than during last season. Gross farm incomes from cotton and cottonseed were slightly lower in 1934 than for a year earlier but they are expected to increase this season. Domestic mill activity in the United States increased during the first quarter of this season and exports were larger than the unusually small volume during the first quarter of last season. Although the competitive position of American cotton has improved with respect to foreign growths this season, the world production of synthetic fibers, though comparatively small, is steadily increasing.

LOAN PLAN CHANGED

The cotton price situation in the United States has changed substantially from a year ago. Despite the lower average price received by farmers during the first 3 months of the marketing season, as compared with last year, gross farm incomes are expected to exceed those for last year and farmers are selling most of their cotton this season, whereas a year ago a considerable proportion of it did not move into trade channels but was instead pledged as collateral for the 12-cent loan. The loan was reduced early this season to 10 cents per pound, but a price-adjustment payment to cooperating farmers equal to the difference between 12 cents and the average price of cotton in the 10 markets, when under 12 cents on the day of the farmer's sale, offsets in part the lower price received during the first 3 months of this season as compared with a year ago. The price of American cotton is also lower in relation to most foreign growths, which puts it in a stronger competitive position than did the comparatively unfavorable relative prices prevailing last season.

COTTON PRICES ADVANCE SHARPLY IN NOVEMBER

Cotton prices averaged 10.94 cents in the 10 designated markets during the 3-month period, August, September, and October, as compared with 12.79 cents for the corresponding period last season. From a low point of 10.35 cents on September 16, the 10-market average price advanced to 12.21 cents on November 21, reflecting improved demand from both domestic and foreign mills, a reduction in the Government crop forecast, and a continuation of unfavorable weather along with prospects of a further reduction and another increase in the proportion of low-grade cotton in this year's crop. The sharp advance in the price of American cotton was accompanied, however, by a relatively greater increase in the price of competitive foreign growths, so that American cotton is now lower in relation to most foreign growths than at any other time this season.

THE COTTON INCOME EXPECTED TO INCREASE IN 1935

Notwithstanding a substantial increase in the average farm price in 1934, the total gross farm income from cotton lint is estimated to have amounted to \$596,000,000, or 10 percent less than that for the previous year, due to the decrease of more than 26 percent in the size of the 1934-35 crop. Although the total gross income of \$822,000,000 from cotton and cottonseed, including rental and parity payments, in 1934-35 was 8 percent below that for the previous season and about two-fifths less than that for 1929-30, it was nearly 80 percent above the low point reached in 1932-33. This year the total farm income from cotton and cottonseed is expected to be larger than that for 1934-35 but probably about equal to or slightly less than the total income of about \$891,000,000 two years ago.

The prospective increase in the gross farm income this season as compared with last season reflects a substantial increase in this year's crop, improved demand conditions coupled with price-adjustment payments, and some increase in rental and parity payments. The marked increase in gross farm incomes from cotton during recent years as compared with the extremely low incomes at the worst of the depression is only partly offset by the higher prices farmers are paying for goods purchased, and this latter is counterbalanced in part by lower total production costs and the fact that farmers can use, to their advantage, the land withheld from cotton production.

INDICATED COTTON CROP COMPARATIVELY SMALL

The 1935 production of cotton in the United States was estimated, on the basis of November 1 conditions, at 11,141,000 bales, which is about 16 percent larger than the 1934-35 crop, but 24 percent smaller than the average for the 10 years ended with 1933-34. Approximately 29,200,000 acres were planted to cotton this season, or about 5 percent more than was planted in 1934-35 but nearly one-third less than the annual average for the 10 years ended with 1933-34. Under the 1935 cotton-adjustment contracts, cooperating producers were permitted to specify and receive payment on a reduction from their base acreage ranging from 25 to 35 percent. The average reduction specified by contract signers was about 33 percent. Cooperating farmers, however, actually planted a somewhat smaller acreage than that permitted under their agreements.

The program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration for next year has not been announced, but a contract covering the years 1936 to 1939 is being prepared and will be released in the near future. The yield per acre for 1935 is expected to be about 186 pounds, or 9 percent larger than that for a year ago when the drought greatly reduced yields in the Western States. The estimated yield this season exceeds the average of 177 pounds for the 10 years ended with 1933-34, despite unfavorable weather at planting time which gave the crop a late start, wet weather during the growing and harvesting season which increased boll-weevil damage and lowered the grade of the crop, and frosts in some northwestern sections of the belt.

CARRY-OVER OF AMERICAN COTTON DECREASED

The increase in the 1935 crop was counterbalanced by a decrease of about 1,600,000 bales in the carry-over from the previous season to approximately 9,000,000 bales, so that the total world supply of American cotton this year is slightly less than that for last year

and somewhat less than the average supply for the 10 years ended with 1933-34. The total supply of American cotton this season is estimated at about 20,100,000 bales, or 5,900,000 bales less than the record supply of 1931-32, and Government financing of more than 5,000,000 bales tends to reduce further the supply of cotton actually available for consumption.

Since stocks of American cotton outside the loan and the producer's pool apparently approached minimum proportions at the end of the 1934-35 season, it now appears that it will be necessary for stocks of Government-financed cotton to be further reduced during the current season if the present rate of expansion in world mill activity continues and if the carry-over of American cotton continues to decrease. This is especially true of the higher grades which constitute a relatively smaller proportion of this year's crop. Although a part of the Government-financed stocks is longer in staple and higher in grade than $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch Middling, and thus commands a premium, most of this cotton has accumulated carrying charges of from $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent to 1 cent per pound or more.

DOMESTIC MILL ACTIVITY INCREASED

The consumption of all cotton in the United States during the first 3 months of the 1935-36 season amounted to 1,410,000 bales, or about 14 percent more than that for the corresponding period for last season but about 18 percent less than the annual average for this period during the 10 years ended with 1933-34. The expansion in domestic mill activity was especially marked in October, and if this rate of activity is fairly well maintained, cotton consumption in the United States this season should exceed the 5,700,000 bales consumed in 1933-34. Domestic consumption of all kinds of cotton in the United States during 1934-35 amounted to 5,361,000 bales, only 120,000 bales of which were foreign cotton, mainly Egyptian.

EXPORTS INCREASED—STILL COMPARATIVELY SMALL

Exports of American cotton also increased during the first 3 months of the 1935-36 season, reflecting lower prices of American cotton in relation to foreign growths and in relation to the corresponding months last season, some expansion in foreign mill activity, particularly in the United Kingdom and in some countries on the Continent of Europe, and the purchases of somewhat more cotton by Germany this season, partly as a result of difficulties with barter arrangements with other foreign cotton-producing countries, especially Brazil. Total exports last season, however, amounted to only 4,799,000 bales and were lower than for any other year since 1917-18. The unusually sharp decrease of about 36 percent in exports was attributed mainly to the unfavorable price relationship between American and other growths, together with the high prices of spot cotton as compared with futures contracts, exchange restrictions, and a shortage of foreign exchange in some countries, particularly in Germany and Italy.

The higher prices of American cotton in relation to foreign growths resulted from the decreased supplies of American cotton and the increased supplies of foreign cotton, along with the pledging of additional cotton as security for Government loans. The shortage of exchange in some important cotton-consuming countries resulted in a reduction in the total consumption of all growths and gave an added stimulus to the production of synthetic fibers. Barter arrangements

with other cotton-producing countries, apparently effected mainly because of a shortage of exchange in the cotton-consuming countries, stimulated the substitution of large quantities of other growths, particularly Brazilian, for American cotton. In Germany, for example, the total consumption of all growths of cotton declined less than 200,000 bales from 1933-34, but the consumption of American cotton decreased nearly 500,000 bales, and Indian and Egyptian about 100,000 bales, whereas the consumption of sundries cotton increased more than 400,000 bales.

The net influence of these barter arrangements upon the substitution of foreign growths for American is difficult to appraise but it seems that the increased supplies of foreign cotton would have replaced, in part, the decreased supplies of American cotton even though barter arrangements had not been in operation. The consumption of American cotton in foreign countries, however, exceeded exports, so that stocks in foreign ports and mills were depleted. Increasing exports this season indicate that these greatly reduced stocks are being replenished to some extent and that the foreign consumption of American cotton is increasing.

SUPPLIES OF FOREIGN COTTON STILL COMPARATIVELY LARGE

The supply of foreign cotton this season is expected to be about the same as the comparatively large supply last season but more than one-fourth larger than the average for the 10 years ended with 1933-34. The indicated production of cotton in the principal foreign cotton-exporting countries, namely, India, Egypt, and Brazil, is substantially larger than for last season, but smaller stocks of foreign cotton, together with smaller prospective crops in China, Mexico, and a few less important countries, about offset these increases in foreign cotton production. The total supply of all cotton in 1935-36 is estimated at about 39,600,000 bales, about 49 percent of which is foreign cotton and 51 percent American. The annual average supply of all growths of cotton during the 10 years ended with 1933-34 was about 37,300,000 bales, 42 percent of which was foreign cotton and 58 percent American.

PRODUCTION OF SYNTHETIC FIBER INCREASED

In addition to the substitution of other cottons for American in the principal foreign cotton-consuming countries last season, the world production of synthetic fibers reached a new high level for the calendar year 1934 and another record production is expected in 1935. In 1934 the total production of rayon yarn in all countries amounted to about 775,000,000 pounds as compared with 666,000,000 in the previous year and an annual average production of 378,000,000 pounds during the 10 years ended with 1933, according to the Textile Organon. The United States produces more rayon yarn than any other country, accounting for about 27 percent of the total world production in 1934, as compared with 20 percent in Japan, 12 percent in Germany, 11 percent in the United Kingdom, 11 percent in Italy, 8 percent in France, and 11 percent in all other countries. The production of rayon yarn in the United States increased only 1,000,000 pounds, or .5 percent, in 1934, as compared with an increase of 108,000,000 pounds, or about 25 percent, in all foreign countries.

RODNEY WHITAKER,
Division of Cotton Marketing.

THE EGG AND POULTRY MARKET SITUATION

November is always an uncertain month as far as the egg markets are concerned. Prices usually reach their peak along about this time when production declines to its low of the year. After this point is reached and passed, fresh egg supplies begin to increase as the early matured pullets are brought into production. Faced with the prospects of a down-turn in the market sometime during November, there is little incentive for retail distributors to buy on any other basis than of day-to-day requirements. This attitude on the part of retailers is likewise reflected in the operations of the large receivers, so that rather sudden and sharp changes in egg quotations during this period are not at all unusual.

CONSUMPTION LAGGING

Since the peak prices for eggs were reached early in November, quotations have declined seasonally. At the present time (November 25) Middle Western Mixed Colors are about 3 to 4 cents lower than their peaks and Nearby Eastern and Pacific Coast Whites, about 2 to 8 cents lower. These declines are mostly seasonal, but to some extent they have been stimulated by unusually favorable fall production conditions and by a lagging consumption demand. Trade output for the four markets of New York, Chicago, Boston, and Philadelphia for the first 3 weeks of November was about 10 percent less than during the corresponding 3 weeks of last year. This decrease is slightly larger than the 7.4-percent decrease reported for October, and shows the generally unsatisfactory state of demand for eggs at the present time.

MILD WEATHER FAVORED PRODUCERS

Producers generally have had the benefit of a mild and open fall, which not only has cut down feed costs but has helped also to bring the 1935 crop of pullets into early production, as well as to maintain the lay of old hens. Supplies of fresh eggs, therefore, have been fully ample to meet the moderate demand. Data compiled by the United States Crop Reporting Board show that the average production per hen on November 1, this year, was the largest for that date in any of the last 10 years. At the same time there was an increase of about 2 percent over November 1, last year, in the number of layers in farm flocks, with additional increases compared with the same date a year ago expected up to mid-winter, at least.

HEAVY STORAGE SITUATION

The most unfavorable feature of the egg markets this fall has been the storage situation. Unfortunately, eggs were stored last spring at prices which failed to encourage a free movement into channels of distribution during the months in which fresh-egg production was declining toward the low point in late October and early November. Reduction in storage stocks from the peak on August 1 to November 1, 1935, amounted to 3,315,000 cases, compared with a reduction of 4,328,000 cases during the same period last year and 4,008,000 cases for the 5-year average. Frozen eggs in storage on November 1 amounted to 87,667,000 pounds, about 1,000,000 pounds less than a year earlier but approximately the same as the 5-year average.

STRONGER TURKEY MARKET

The poultry markets have been very quiet with the exception of turkeys. There seems to have been more than the usual amount of interest given to the turkey market this fall. This may be explained in part by the smaller crop and in part by the relatively high prices of other meats. Demand so far has shown more strength than a year ago and supplies carried over from the Thanksgiving market will doubtless be much smaller than in 1934. This should mean a relatively good market for Christmas.

SMALLER STOCK OF POULTRY IN STORAGE

Stocks of all poultry in storage on November 1, 1935, amounted to 53,041,000 pounds, which were about 20,000,000 pounds less than stocks in storage on the same date last year and 8,000,000 pounds less than the 5-year average.

B. H. BENNETT,
Division of Dairy and Poultry Products.

THE IMPROVED DOMESTIC DAIRY MARKET SITUATION

November dairy markets have been featured by a continued firm tone, higher prices, lower production, and sharply reduced stocks. Wholesale butter prices, which in October followed a steady upward trend at an advance of about a cent over a year earlier, rose abruptly after that to the highest mid-November level since 1930. Except for a few scattered areas, butter and canned milk production is down markedly under last year, some of the heaviest decreases being in important producing sections. Cheese production alone continues heavy. An active movement of dairy products into distributing trade channels and into consumption also has been a strengthening influence.

BUTTER PRICES ABOVE LAST YEAR

Wholesale butter prices have receded since the middle of November, but still remain about 3 cents per pound above a year ago and have maintained the lead over other previous years since 1930. Sharp advances in butter prices during the first half of November came as a surprise to most dealers, who had rather expected a steady climb, and the later loss of part of this rise was more or less expected.

A reduced rate of production seems to have furnished basic support for most of the current month's advance, with some speculative buying said to have contributed additional support. For some time supplies of fresh butter have been comparatively light and many buyers in terminal markets have been forced to turn to storage butter in order to supply regular requirements. Some of the smaller creameries which ordinarily ship butter to market every week are reporting that their production has been no more than enough to take care of local trade requirements. Furthermore, quantities of butter are reported as having moved from Chicago to certain points in producing areas, which usually have had surplus butter to sell at this season.

Foreign butter prices have followed the opposite trend from that of domestic prices during the last 2 months. During early October, London prices of New Zealand butter were about the same as 92-score butter at New York. At present New York prices are about 10 cents per pound higher.

The trend of butter prices in the weeks ahead is uncertain, and what has happened in previous years is no criterion of what may happen this season. In the fall and winter of 1934, the price trend continued steadily upward into February before there was a major break. Everyone who has followed butter markets remembers, of course, what happened in the previous season, 1933-34, when after the discontinuance of buying by the Dairy Marketing Corporation in the middle of December 1933, prices crashed, going down to 16 cents at New York. In most previous years, December has been a month of irregular prices, probably due in part to the winter increases in production, and in part to the immediate market situation as affected by storage supplies and current consumption.

CHEESE AND EVAPORATED MILK ALSO HIGHER

Butter price advances this fall have been accompanied by similar changes in some of the other manufactured dairy products. There were two advances in weekly prices of American cheese at Wisconsin primary markets during November, with ruling prices of Twins now 16 cents, compared with 12½ cents a year ago. A similar difference exists in wholesale terminal markets also. Evaporated milk prices have advanced 20 to 25 cents per case since the first of November, and they are now higher than a year ago by about that amount.

Fluid milk dealers' buying prices for class 1 milk are unchanged this month, although surplus milk is higher since it is based upon butter and cheese prices. Retail milk prices are generally unchanged from those prevailing in October as well as in November 1934.

LOWER PRODUCTION

Changes in the production situation this fall at least partly explain recent dairy price trends. October creamery butter production is estimated as 10.6 percent below October 1934. The reduction under September was 15.2 percent, compared with a seasonal drop of 7.7 percent in 1934, 6.5 percent in 1933, and even smaller decreases in previous years. Only five States showed increases over 1934 in October—Minnesota, the Dakotas, Texas, and Washington. The Iowa reduction was 23 percent, Nebraska 28 percent, with similar reductions in several other States which are important not only as to the production of butter but of fluid milk as well. With the October reduction alone amounting to 14,000,000 pounds under a year earlier, the year's decrease up to November 1 was 42,000,000 pounds under the same 10-month period in 1934, almost a 3-percent drop.

Evaporated milk production in October was 21.5 percent below October last year, the pack of 105,325,000 pounds being 29,000,000 pounds lighter, but the calendar year total is still 160,000,000 pounds, or 10.6 percent greater than 1934.

Cheese production was 15.7 percent greater in October than a year previous, the bulk of this occurring in Wisconsin where there was a 35-percent increase on American cheese alone. High cheese prices in relation to butter have encouraged cheese production.

HEAVIER CONSUMPTIVE MOVEMENT

Trade output, during October, of butter, cheese, and condensed and evaporated milk, combined on a milk equivalent basis, was 8 percent

greater than in 1934, ranging from a very slight increase in the case of butter to an increase in evaporated milk of 140 percent.

L. M. DAVIS,
Division of Dairy and Poultry Products.

SUMMARY OF DAIRY STATISTICS

[Millions of pounds; 000,000 omitted]

PRODUCTION

Product	October			January to October, inclusive		
	1935	1934	Percent change	1935	1934	Percent change
Creamery butter-----	120	134	-10. 6	1, 434	1, 476	-2. 8
Cheese-----	53	46	+15. 7	518	513	+0. 9
Condensed milk-----	18	18	-3. 2	210	196	+7. 1
Evaporated milk ¹ ----	105	134	-21. 5	1, 677	1, 516	+10. 6
Total milk equivalent..	3, 315	3, 606	-8. 1	39, 458	39, 902	-1. 1

APPARENT CONSUMPTION

[Including production, changes in stocks, and net imports or exports]

Creamery butter-----	148	148	+0. 2	1, 383	1, 476	-6. 3
Cheese-----	62	60	+4. 5	548	525	+4. 4
Condensed milk-----	23	20	+14. 5	204	185	+10. 3
Evaporated milk ¹ ----	217	90	+140. 6	1, 578	1, 479	+6. 7
Total milk equivalent..	4, 266	3, 946	+8. 1	38, 439	39, 902	-3. 7

¹ Case goods only.

VOLUME OF AGRICULTURAL LOANS

The amount of outstanding agricultural loans of leading agencies continued the movements in process during the last year. Farm-mortgage loans of 39 life insurance companies, having 82 percent of the assets of all such companies, declined further through August. They were \$831,000,000 as compared with \$844,000,000 at the close of July. Joint stock land bank holdings declined from \$208,000,000 in June to \$184,000,000 on October 31. Federal land bank loans rose from \$2,024,000,000 in July to \$2,059,000,000 in October. Commissioner loans increased from \$743,000,000 in July to \$777,000,000 in October. Short-term and cooperative credits remained about constant in volume.

New loans of the Federal land banks were \$18,000,000 and Commissioner loans \$14,000,000 during October. Applications for loans from both of these sources have been greatly reduced in number during the last year. Intermediate credit banks advanced a total of \$33,000,000 during that month and production credit associations loaned \$20,000,000.

AGRICULTURAL LOANS OUTSTANDING: BY LENDING AGENCY ¹

[Millions of dollars]

End of year or month	Farm mortgage loans to farmers by—					Federal intermedi- ate credit bank loans to—	
	39 life in- surance companies	Member banks	Federal land banks ²	Land bank commis- sioner	Joint stock land banks ³	Regional and pro- duction credit ⁴	All other institu- tions ⁵
1929-----	1, 579	388	1, 199	-----	627	-----	-----
1930-----	1, 543	387	1, 190	-----	591	-----	-----
1931-----	1, 503	359	1, 168	-----	537	-----	-----
1932-----	1, 402	356	1, 129	-----	459	-----	-----
1933-----	1, 234	⁶ 318	1, 233	70. 7	392	73	76
1934-----	950	⁶ 262	1, 916	616. 8	261	100	90
1935:							
January-----	932	-----	1, 943	643. 3	251	100	88
February-----	917	-----	1, 961	664. 9	243	103	87
March-----	898	⁶ 263	1, 975	686. 6	230	115	86
April-----	883	-----	1, 976	696. 8	223	124	86
May-----	868	-----	1, 998	716. 2	215	130	83
June-----	855	⁶ 259	2, 017	733. 5	208	131	68
July-----	844	-----	2, 024	742. 9	201	129	64
August-----	831	-----	2, 036	754. 5	195	125	64
September-----	821	-----	2, 047	765. 4	190	115	60
October-----	-----	-----	2, 059	777. 2	184	101	53

End of year or month	Production credit asso- ciations	Regional agricultural credit cor- porations	Emergency crop loans	Emergency drought loan offices	Loans to cooperatives	
					Banks for coopera- tives, in- cluding cen- tral banks	Agricul- tural Mar- keting Act revolving fund
1929-----	-----	-----	7	-----	-----	15
1930-----	-----	-----	8	-----	-----	137
1931-----	-----	-----	60	-----	-----	156
1932-----	-----	24	89	-----	-----	159
1933-----	0. 03	145	90	-----	19	158
1934-----	61. 0	87	78	32	28	55
1935:						
January-----	64. 6	85	77	40	28	54
February-----	71. 2	82	76	50	29	50
March-----	85. 8	80	75	60	28	50
April-----	97. 4	78	95	67	30	50
May-----	105. 1	77	124	70	32	47
June-----	109. 9	73	126	71	24	49
July-----	113. 0	69	127	71	25	49
August-----	112. 1	65	125	70	31	46
September-----	104. 7	59	122	70	43	47
October-----	95. 9	52	114	69	48	46

¹ Data for life insurance companies from Association of Life Insurance Presidents; data for member banks from Federal Reserve Board; other data from Farm Credit Administration.

² Unpaid principal; data previously shown were unmatured principal.

³ Includes loans outstanding of joint-stock land banks in receivership.

⁴ Regional agricultural credit corporations and production credit associations. Some of the loans made by the regional agricultural credit corporations and all of the loans made by the production credit associations are rediscounted with the Federal intermediate credit banks. The amounts in this column are thus included in the columns headed "Production credit associations" and "Regional agricultural credit corporations."

⁵ Includes agricultural credit associations, livestock loan companies, and commercial banks.

⁶ Licensed banks only.

NEW AGRICULTURAL LOANS, DISCOUNTS, AND INVESTMENTS.¹

[Thousands of dollars]

Year and month	Federal land banks	Land bank commissioner loans to farmers	Federal intermediate credit bank loans to—		Regional agricultural credit corporations	Production credit associations	Emergency crop loans	Agricultural Marketing Act revolving fund	Banks for co-operatives, including central banks
			Regional and production credit ²	All other institutions ²					
1933.....	151, 634	70, 812	109, 746	168, 927	223, 116	27	57, 376	40, 687	27, 144
1934									
Jan.....	77, 843	49, 795	12, 886	14, 155	21, 679	134	-----	253	786
Feb.....	86, 179	54, 120	11, 570	7, 276	18, 745	515	-----	259	1, 140
Mar.....	89, 346	63, 838	22, 141	10, 052	17, 324	3, 766	611	271	1, 323
Apr.....	25, 362	21, 271	25, 952	12, 054	13, 120	10, 110	18, 118	67	1, 594
May.....	68, 078	53, 203	28, 072	13, 129	11, 213	14, 112	8, 765	360	2, 584
June.....	86, 154	67, 770	19, 582	14, 862	8, 098	11, 296	1, 072	1, 289	1, 880
July.....	65, 056	51, 956	18, 852	12, 338	6, 752	13, 022	2, 272	2, 302	13, 682
Aug.....	60, 261	48, 619	17, 390	11, 257	7, 685	12, 402	2, 458	247	4, 049
Sept.....	48, 343	39, 208	16, 839	11, 542	5, 676	11, 115	2, 323	516	1, 517
Oct.....	43, 396	36, 371	14, 614	30, 144	7, 864	11, 158	1, 015	3, 606	3, 719
Nov.....	44, 044	36, 348	16, 012	23, 014	8, 219	10, 360	101	271	3, 103
Dec.....	36, 305	30, 637	19, 686	22, 493	14, 214	12, 170	1, 157	115	4, 694
1935									
Jan.....	34, 471	27, 924	24, 585	16, 966	15, 209	14, 011	-----	117	2, 755
Feb.....	27, 945	22, 842	23, 527	14, 982	12, 411	15, 393	-----	66	3, 574
Mar.....	27, 039	23, 354	27, 927	15, 189	10, 136	23, 538	-----	376	2, 556
Apr.....	7, 499	11, 479	21, 429	11, 771	10, 871	20, 504	20, 048	502	4, 431
May.....	30, 176	20, 768	19, 868	20, 203	7, 817	17, 311	29, 226	1	4, 044
June.....	25, 240	18, 854	17, 666	12, 347	5, 934	15, 494	2, 950	5, 033	2, 661
July.....	14, 050	10, 869	15, 330	12, 298	4, 667	14, 406	1, 436	452	3, 095
Aug.....	18, 832	13, 086	12, 899	9, 861	4, 074	11, 827	1, 993	5	8, 411
Sept.....	17, 150	12, 348	18, 895	8, 936	3, 397	14, 719	1, 626	320	14, 008
Oct.....	18, 379	13, 764	21, 510	11, 542	4, 477	20, 222	734	413	8, 580

¹ Data from Farm Credit Administration.² Regional agricultural credit corporations and production credit associations. Some of the loans made by the regional agricultural credit corporations and all of the loans made by the production credit associations are rediscounted with the Federal intermediate credit banks. The amounts in this column are thus included in the columns headed "Production Credit Associations" and "Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations."³ Includes agricultural credit associations, livestock loan companies, and commercial banks.

DAVID L. WICKENS,
Division of Agricultural Finance.

CASH INCOME FROM THE SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS AND RENTAL AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS TO FARMERS

CASH INCOME FROM SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS

	Grains	Cotton and cotton-seed	Fruits and vegetables	All crops	Meat animals	Dairy products	Poultry and eggs	All live-stock and products	Total crops and live-stock
	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>
1934									
November.....	42	115	62	276	115	89	53	263	539
December.....	39	79	56	219	108	90	51	254	473
1935									
January.....	27	44	59	189	125	99	36	261	450
February.....	26	34	65	157	109	98	38	245	402
March.....	28	30	75	159	122	102	45	270	429
April.....	37	18	92	173	124	111	59	295	468
May.....	40	15	83	160	130	123	66	323	483
June.....	34	12	70	133	116	122	54	305	438
July.....	45	11	75	152	119	113	44	299	451
August.....	95	27	70	260	139	102	36	287	547
September.....	94	109	70	356	136	98	41	282	638
October.....	79	182	110	484	166	95	44	309	793
1930.....	65	190	133	479	177	125	47	355	834
1931.....	47	114	82	302	111	102	38	253	555
1932.....	34	87	59	228	78	74	37	194	422
1933.....	46	145	90	358	89	86	29	214	572
1934.....	62	181	88	438	117	94	37	254	692
1935.....	79	182	110	484	166	95	44	309	793

BENEFIT, RENTAL, AND DROUGHT-RELIEF PAYMENTS TO FARMERS NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME

	Cotton	Tobacco	Wheat	Sugar beets	Sheep	Corn-hog	Cattle ¹	Total ²
	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>
1934								
June.....	19	3	1	-----	-----	5	1	29
July.....	8	1	1	-----	-----	10	10	30
August.....	6	1	1	-----	-----	38	26	72
September.....	2	-----	2	-----	-----	47	25	76
October.....	12	-----	36	-----	-----	28	28	104
November.....	24	2	25	-----	5	8	9	73
December.....	12	1	12	-----	2	22	4	53
1935								
January.....	18	2	6	-----	1	37	6	70
February.....	10	3	5	3	(³)	28	3	52
March.....	5	7	4	3	-----	30	1	50
April.....	2	2	1	4	-----	40	-----	49
May.....	17	3	3	3	-----	10	-----	36
June.....	15	5	1	3	-----	6	-----	30
July.....	4	1	1	1	-----	11	-----	19
August.....	4	1	12	1	-----	24	-----	⁴ 44
September.....	6	4	23	-----	-----	22	-----	⁴ 57
October.....	19	2	18	1	-----	17	-----	⁴ 58

¹ Purchased under drought-relief program.² Total of all benefit, rental, and drought-relief payments made during month may not check exactly with sum of payments on individual program.³ Less than \$500,000.⁴ Includes \$2,000,000 of rental and benefit payments paid to rice growers in August and September and \$1,000,000 in October.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

Estimates of average prices received by producers at local farm markets based on reports to the division of crop and livestock estimates of this Bureau. Average of reports covering the United States weighted according to relative importance of district and States.

Product	5-year average, August 1909-July 1914	No- vem- ber average, 1909- 13	No- vem- ber 1934	Octo- ber 1935	No- vem- ber 1935	Parity price, No- vem- ber 1935
Cotton, per pound-----cents--	12. 4	12. 1	12. 3	10. 9	11. 5	15. 6
Corn, per bushel-----do-----	64. 2	59. 4	75. 7	71. 8	56. 4	80. 9
Wheat, per bushel-----do-----	88. 4	87. 3	88. 1	96. 3	88. 7	111. 4
Hay, per ton-----dollars--	11. 87	11. 89	13. 58	7. 26	7. 25	14. 96
Potatoes, per bushel-----cents--	69. 7	61. 4	45. 9	46. 1	62. 6	86. 5
Oats, per bushel-----do-----	39. 9	38. 2	51. 1	27. 0	25. 8	50. 3
Beef cattle, per 100 pounds.dollars--	5. 21	5. 01	3. 81	6. 24	6. 05	6. 56
Hogs, per 100 pounds-----do-----	7. 22	6. 96	5. 04	9. 56	8. 54	9. 10
Chickens, per pound-----cents--	11. 4	10. 8	11. 7	15. 7	15. 9	14. 4
Eggs, per dozen-----do-----	21. 5	27. 8	28. 6	27. 9	30. 1	38. 9
Butter, per pound-----do-----	25. 5	27. 4	25. 9	26. 2	28. 2	33. 8
Butterfat, per pound-----do-----	26. 3	28. 5	27. 2	25. 9	29. 9	35. 1
Wool, per pound-----do-----	17. 6	16. 9	19. 2	21. 3	22. 6	22. 2
Veal calves, per 100 pounds.dollars--	6. 75	6. 74	4. 97	7. 65	7. 65	8. 50
Lambs, per 100 pounds-----do-----	5. 87	5. 31	4. 84	7. 38	7. 57	7. 40
Horses, each-----do-----	136. 60	133. 00	72. 20	88. 60	88. 90	172. 10

¹ Adjusted for seasonality.

COLD-STORAGE SITUATION

[Nov. 1 holdings, shows nearest millions; i. e., 000,000 omitted]

Commodity	5-year average, 1930-34	Year ago	Month ago	Novem- ber 1935
Apples-----total barrels--	¹ 9, 300	¹ 10, 408	¹ 2, 510	¹ 9, 909
Frozen and preserved fruits-----pounds--	80	70	86	87
40-percent cream-----40-quart cans--	¹ 206	¹ 133	¹ 232	¹ 197
Creamery butter-----pounds--	101	111	149	120
American cheese-----do-----	84	103	103	101
Frozen eggs-----do-----	88	89	99	88
Shell eggs-----cases--	¹ 5, 113	¹ 4, 633	¹ 6, 353	¹ 4, 632
Total poultry-----pounds--	62	73	40	53
Total beef-----do-----	60	108	48	65
Total pork-----do-----	434	505	278	240
Lard-----do-----	70	106	45	40
Lamb and mutton, frozen-----do-----	3	3	1	2
Total meats-----do-----	560	723	376	361

¹ 3 ciphers omitted.

GENERAL TREND OF PRICES AND WAGES

[1910-14=100]

Year and month	Wholesale prices of all commodities ¹	Industrial wages ²	Prices paid by farmers for commodities used in ³ —			Farm wages	Taxes ⁴
			Living	Production	Living production		
1910.....	103	-----	98	98	98	97	-----
1911.....	95	-----	100	103	101	97	-----
1912.....	101	-----	101	98	100	101	-----
1913.....	102	-----	100	102	101	104	100
1914.....	99	-----	102	99	100	101	101
1915.....	102	101	107	104	105	102	110
1916.....	125	114	124	124	124	112	116
1917.....	172	129	147	151	149	140	129
1918.....	192	160	177	174	176	176	137
1919.....	202	185	210	192	202	206	172
1920.....	225	222	222	174	201	239	209
1921.....	142	203	161	141	152	150	223
1922.....	141	197	156	139	149	146	224
1923.....	147	214	160	141	152	166	228
1924.....	143	218	159	143	152	166	228
1925.....	151	223	164	147	157	168	232
1926.....	146	229	162	146	155	171	232
1927.....	139	231	159	145	153	170	238
1928.....	141	232	160	148	155	169	239
1929.....	139	236	158	147	153	170	241
1930.....	126	226	148	140	145	152	238
1931.....	107	207	126	122	124	116	218
1932.....	95	178	108	107	107	86	189
1933.....	96	171	109	108	109	80	162
1934.....	109	182	122	125	123	90	154
1934							
September.....	113	182	123	129	126	-----	-----
October.....	112	181	-----	-----	126	93	-----
November.....	112	180	-----	-----	126	-----	-----
December.....	112	185	122	131	126	-----	-----
1935							
January.....	115	188	-----	-----	126	86	-----
February.....	116	189	-----	-----	127	-----	-----
March.....	116	193	124	131	127	-----	-----
April.....	117	191	-----	-----	127	94	-----
May.....	117	189	-----	-----	127	-----	-----
June.....	116	189	124	130	127	-----	-----
July.....	116	188	-----	-----	126	99	-----
August.....	118	192	-----	-----	125	-----	-----
September.....	118	195	122	124	123	-----	-----
October.....	118	194	-----	-----	123	102	-----

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics Index with 1926=100, divided by its 1910-14 average of 68.5.² Average weekly earnings, New York State factories. June 1914=100.³ These indexes are based on retail prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living and production reported quarterly for March, June, September, and December. The indexes for other months are straight interpolations between the successive quarterly indexes.⁴ Index of farm real estate taxes, per acre, 1913=100.

GENERAL TREND OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID

Year and month	Index numbers of farm prices [August 1909-July 1914=100]								Prices paid by farmers for commodities bought ¹	Ratio of prices received to prices paid
	Grains	Cotton and cottonseed	Fruits	Truck crops	Meat animals	Dairy products	Chickens and eggs	All groups		
1910-----	104	113	101	-----	103	99	104	102	98	104
1911-----	96	101	102	-----	87	95	91	95	101	94
1912-----	106	87	94	-----	95	102	100	100	100	100
1913-----	92	97	107	-----	108	105	101	101	101	100
1914-----	102	85	91	-----	112	102	106	101	100	101
1915-----	120	77	82	-----	104	103	101	98	105	93
1916-----	126	119	100	-----	120	109	116	118	124	95
1917-----	217	187	118	-----	174	135	155	175	149	117
1918-----	227	245	172	-----	203	163	186	202	176	115
1919-----	233	247	178	-----	207	186	209	213	202	105
1920-----	232	248	191	-----	174	198	223	211	201	105
1921-----	112	101	157	-----	109	156	162	125	152	82
1922-----	106	156	174	-----	114	143	141	132	149	89
1923-----	113	216	137	-----	107	159	146	142	152	93
1924-----	129	212	125	150	110	149	149	143	152	94
1925-----	157	177	172	153	140	153	163	156	157	99
1926-----	131	122	138	143	147	152	159	145	155	94
1927-----	128	128	144	121	140	155	144	139	153	91
1928-----	130	152	176	159	151	158	153	149	155	96
1929-----	120	144	141	149	156	157	162	146	153	95
1930-----	100	102	162	140	133	137	129	126	145	87
1931-----	63	63	98	117	92	108	100	87	124	70
1932-----	44	47	82	102	63	83	82	65	107	61
1933-----	62	64	74	105	60	82	75	70	109	64
1934-----	93	99	100	104	68	96	89	90	123	73
1933										
March-----	36	48	65	92	56	71	56	55	100	55
1934										
October-----	109	107	98	110	74	100	108	102	126	81
November-----	109	107	94	107	72	105	125	101	126	80
December-----	116	109	85	130	73	107	119	101	126	80
1935										
January-----	115	108	87	117	96	112	114	107	126	85
February-----	114	108	90	188	105	121	119	111	127	87
March-----	111	102	90	162	117	114	97	108	127	85
April-----	115	103	105	156	117	117	105	111	127	87
May-----	112	105	98	127	118	107	110	108	127	85
June-----	102	103	100	96	119	99	108	104	127	82
July-----	96	102	98	93	116	96	107	102	126	81
August-----	96	97	87	92	129	98	111	106	125	85
September-----	97	90	82	101	131	102	126	107	123	87
October-----	101	94	82	120	125	104	132	109	² 123	² 89
November-----	90	99	83	136	117	111	140	108	² 122	² 89

¹ 1910-14=100.² Preliminary.

THE TREND OF EXPORT MOVEMENT

Compiled from the Department of Commerce reports by the Foreign Agricultural Service Division of this Bureau.

Year and month (ended Dec. 1)	Wheat ¹ including flour	Tobacco (leaf)	Bacon, ² hams, and shoulders	Lard ³	Apples (fresh)	Cotton, ⁴ running bales
	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bales</i>
Total:						
1920-----	311, 601	467, 662	821, 922	612, 250	5, 393	6, 111
1921-----	359, 021	515, 353	647, 680	868, 942	5, 809	6, 385
1922-----	235, 307	430, 908	631, 452	766, 950	4, 945	6, 015
1923-----	175, 190	474, 500	828, 890	1, 035, 382	8, 876	5, 224
1924-----	241, 454	546, 555	637, 980	944, 095	10, 261	6, 653
1925-----	138, 784	468, 471	467, 459	688, 829	10, 043	8, 362
1926-----	193, 971	478, 773	351, 591	698, 961	16, 170	8, 916
1927-----	228, 576	506, 252	237, 720	681, 303	15, 534	9, 199
1928-----	151, 976	575, 408	248, 278	759, 722	13, 635	8, 546
1929-----	154, 348	555, 347	275, 118	829, 328	16, 856	7, 418
1930-----	149, 154	560, 958	216, 953	642, 486	15, 850	6, 474
1931-----	125, 686	503, 531	123, 246	568, 708	17, 785	6, 849
1932-----	82, 118	387, 766	84, 175	546, 202	16, 919	8, 916
1933-----	26, 611	420, 418	100, 169	579, 132	11, 029	8, 533
1934-----	36, 536	418, 983	83, 725	431, 238	10, 070	5, 753
October:						
1920-----	43, 355	39, 394	58, 627	54, 174	652	582
1921-----	25, 522	43, 465	35, 711	56, 886	387	866
1922-----	25, 379	58, 353	50, 940	66, 333	762	797
1923-----	19, 071	44, 948	72, 341	76, 378	2, 845	770
1924-----	53, 834	56, 227	45, 365	60, 813	2, 524	942
1925-----	9, 113	52, 211	30, 706	44, 745	1, 590	1, 414
1926-----	24, 098	53, 129	23, 873	46, 988	2, 750	1, 359
1927-----	36, 347	46, 548	16, 322	50, 355	1, 898	1, 113
1928-----	28, 548	88, 109	10, 055	59, 865	4, 249	1, 241
1929-----	14, 922	77, 320	18, 266	70, 698	2, 042	1, 251
1930-----	12, 355	73, 583	8, 722	41, 396	2, 992	1, 004
1931-----	15, 563	48, 739	8, 762	43, 547	2, 945	1, 014
1932-----	4, 422	57, 112	6, 567	53, 573	2, 734	1, 008
1933-----	1, 490	64, 464	8, 147	49, 812	1, 433	1, 045
1934-----	1, 923	61, 606	5, 335	26, 870	1, 084	616
1934:						
December--	1, 511	25, 652	4, 283	16, 170	998	505
1935:						
January ---	1, 257	28, 943	5, 108	17, 667	1, 281	466
February --	1, 300	23, 616	4, 158	15, 890	1, 490	390
March-----	1, 500	31, 062	5, 428	10, 636	945	318
April-----	1, 281	16, 760	5, 332	7, 193	397	323
May-----	1, 426	16, 661	7, 443	9, 740	44	278
June-----	1, 195	11, 867	6, 662	6, 877	17	345
July-----	1, 231	14, 581	6, 580	4, 915	104	280
August-----	1, 278	22, 382	5, 210	3, 406	544	241
September -	1, 324	52, 371	3, 531	1, 515	1, 349	487
October----	1, 489	60, 068	3, 355	2, 731	2, 190	712

¹ Wheat flour is converted on a basis of 4.7 bushels of grain equal to 1 barrel of flour.² Includes Cumberland and Wiltshire sides.³ Excludes neutral lard.⁴ Excludes linters.

THE TREND OF AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

Year (ended Dec. 31) and month	Cattle, live	Butter	Wheat, grain	Corn, grain	Oats, grain	Sugar, raw ¹	Wool, unmanufactured
	1,000 head	1,000 pounds	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 short tons	1,000 pounds
1920-----	379	37,454	35,809	7,784	6,728	4,033	259,618
1921-----	195	18,558	23,286	164	3,565	2,984	320,666
1922-----	238	6,957	22,642	113	1,299	4,861	376,673
1923-----	140	23,741	19,502	203	317	3,855	394,250
1924-----	145	19,405	15,534	4,107	6,964	4,138	268,213
1925-----	175	7,212	13,901	1,086	178	4,460	339,253
1926-----	221	8,029	14,143	1,055	157	4,710	310,266
1927-----	445	8,460	11,754	5,458	85	4,216	267,287
1928-----	563	4,659	18,848	565	489	3,869	244,553
1929-----	505	2,773	14,576	407	112	4,888	280,371
1930-----	234	2,472	19,968	1,556	183	3,495	163,734
1931-----	95	1,882	15,690	618	576	3,176	158,385
1932-----	106	1,014	10,026	344	59	2,971	56,535
1933-----	82	1,022	10,318	160	132	2,874	178,928
1934: ²							
January----	8	58	863	18	6	201	9,637
February----	7	59	734	15	2	132	12,622
March-----	9	45	1,145	17	(³)	196	16,975
April-----	15	55	960	11	4	243	13,567
May-----	6	69	1,005	14	1	326	7,458
June-----	5	74	899	77	7	221	8,003
July-----	4	74	721	24	152	61	7,632
August-----	1	95	1,452	195	27	102	7,046
September---	3	114	3,765	445	210	766	7,567
October-----	1	172	2,335	501	1,087	272	8,850
November---	2	189	2,263	470	1,672	185	4,964
December---	4	249	2,401	1,172	2,412	292	5,074
Total-----	66	1,253	18,542	2,959	5,580	2,997	109,396
1935: ²							
January----	6	539	1,906	1,887	1,644	536	8,583
February----	38	3,070	2,061	1,826	2,118	156	11,964
March-----	53	4,929	2,151	3,305	2,596	230	13,939
April-----	51	8,860	2,706	1,445	2,167	278	15,459
May-----	49	2,665	1,838	3,036	1,124	253	15,778
June-----	34	1,437	1,517	6,122	406	235	15,932
July-----	18	177	1,508	5,649	29	366	18,760
August-----	16	149	3,796	8,554	1	572	20,361
September---	14	122	4,342	2,986	7	131	21,952
October-----	32	108	6,583	4,690	4	92	23,498

¹ Includes beet sugar. Tons of 2,000 pounds.² General imports prior to 1934; beginning Jan. 1, 1934, imports for consumption.³ Less than 500.

* Foreign Agricultural Service Division. Compiled from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States and official records of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.